REMARKS

A. Introduction

Claims 1-28 were presented for examination.

Claims 1-28 were rejected.

Claims 1, 3-14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 25-27 have been amended.

Claim 15 has been cancelled

B. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Examiner rejected Claims 1- 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has considered these rejections and has amended Claims 1, 3-13, 20, 21, 25-27 to overcome these rejections.

C. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Examiner rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 on the grounds that it is obvious and unpatentable over Bryan (U.S. Patent No. 2,140,103). Applicant has considered this rejection and has amended Claim 14 to include the limitation of Claim 15 to overcome this rejection. Claim 15 has been cancelled. Bryan only discloses shapes having different sides, such as circle, triangle, or square. This is unlike the present invention, which discloses that the number of sides corresponds to the number of bonds of the chemical fragment represented thereon. Claims 16 and 17 have been amended to depend from Claim 14.

Applicant has considered all points made by the Examiner in the Office Action dated May 26, 2004 and has incorporated Examiner's suggestions to ensure compliance with the applicable rules. In view of the above, it is submitted that Claims 1-14 and 16-28 are in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections is

respectfully requested.

If impediments to allowance of Claims 1-14 and 16-28 remain and a telephone conference between the undersigned and the examiner would help remove such impediments in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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